Cooperation of Pubdic Sector Oil and Natural Gas Companies with foreign companies

1387. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Navbharat Times' dated August 6, 1994 to the effect that public sector oil and natural gas companies have been cooperating with foreign companies in respect of their sales instead of holding a competition with them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the effects thereof on public sector companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) The news-item appeared in the Navbharat Times dated August 16, 1994. In view of liberalisation of marketing of certain petroleum products, the Government oil companies have formed the following Joint Venture Companies for manufacture and marketing of lubricants:—

1. IOC & Mobil . (Indo-Mobil)
2. BPC & Shell . (Bharat-Shell)
3. IBP & Caltex . (IBP-Caltex Limited)
4. IOC, Balmer Lawrie & Nyco
5. Balmer Lawrie & Fuch.

Bharat Shell have also imported 7250 MTs of LPG with the assistance of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited. IBP-Caltex have also planned to enter into the marketing of LPG and to develop port facilities. Indian Oil Corporation Limited has further entered into a MOU with Mobil for development of import facility at Haldia. Similarly Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited is discussing with certain Private Sector Parties including some foreign companies to form a Joint Venture Company for development of infrastructure. The Public Sector Oil Companies have signed MOUs with 71 parties for facilitating import of kerosene and with 11 parties for facilitating import of LPG and also allowed them to use their facilities for import of these products.

Such tie-ups with foreign multinationals have been entered into with a view to obtaining the latest and state-of-art technology and capital inflow in the respective fields and expanding the business and facing competition effectively. With these tie ups, the PSUs will be in a position to more effectively compete with the foreign companies which would also be entering into the country in areas which have been liberalised. The benefit of the business by these JVCs will also accrue to the PSUs.

राशन कार्ड धारकों को एल०पी०जी० कनेक्शनों का आवंटन

1388. श्री रामजी लाल :

क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में एल०पी०जी० कनेक्शन केवल उन व्यक्तियों को दिये जाते हैं, जिनके नाम शहरों में राशन कार्ड में दर्ज हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और गांवों में राशन कार्ड धारकों के विरुद्ध भेद भाव बरते जाने के क्य कारण हैं ;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने पिछले कुछ महीनों के दौरान इस संबंध में किसी समिति का गठन किया है ; और